ATTACHMENT C

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A sports ball valve comprising:

a mounting member being adapted to provide for mounting of the valve; and

a valve element connected to the mounting member and being of a conical or frusto-conical shape having its reduced diameter portion directed in a forward flow direction, the valve element including a collapsible aperture located at or adjacent the reduced diameter portion and which in an open condition allows for flow of a fluid in the forward direction through the valve whilst in a closed condition the collapsible aperture prevents flow of the fluid in a reverse direction, the collapsible aperture being opened by the fluid pressure alone wherein the valve is arranged for inflation without penetrating the valve element or collapsible aperture with an injector.

2. (Previously presented) A sports ball valve as claimed in claim 1 wherein the valve includes an isolation zone disposed intermediate the mounting member and the valve element and being configured to reduce the likelihood of inadvertent opening of the collapsible aperture on application of operational forces to the mounting member.

3. (Previously presented) A sports ball valve as claimed in claim 2 wherein the isolation zone includes a peripheral recess at which the cross-sectional area of the valve is reduced.

4. (Currently amended) A sports ball valve as claimed in ~~either~~ claims ~~of 2 or 3~~2 wherein the isolation zone is approximately 30 to 80% of the maximum cross-sectional area of the conical or frusto-conical-shaped valve element.

5. (Currently amended) A sports ball valve as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the mounting member is either disc-shaped or in the form of a cylinder connected to and coaxial with the conical or frusto-conical shaped valve element.

6. (Previously presented) A valve comprising:

a mounting member being adapted to provide for mounting of the valve; and

a valve element connected to the mounting and being of a conical or frusto-conical shape having its reduced diameter portion directed in a forward flow direction, the valve element including a collapsible aperture located at or adjacent the reduced diameter portion and which in an open condition allows for flow of a fluid in the forward direction through the valve whilst in a closed condition the collapsible aperture prevents flow of the fluid in a reverse direction, the valve element being connected to the mounting member via an isolation zone defined by an annular recess of the valve which is configured to reduce the likelihood of the collapsible aperture opening under application of external operational forces to the mounting member.

7. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collapsible aperture is arranged to open under fluid pressure alone.

8. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collapsible aperture is arranged to receive an injector.

9. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s 6 to 8~~6 wherein the valve element is at least in part formed from a resilient material.

10. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 9 wherein the isolation zone is more flexible than the valve element.

11. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 6 ~~to 10~~ wherein the annular recess is defined or formed by a reduction in the cross-sectional area of the valve.

12. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s 6 to 11~~ wherein the isolation zone comprises a narrowed neck portion of the valve which joins the mounting member and the valve element.

13. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~either of~~ claim~~s~~ 11 ~~or 12~~ wherein the cross-sectional area of the valve at the isolation zone is approximately 30 to 80% of the maximum cross-sectional area of the valve element.

14. (Currently Amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claim~~s 6 to 13~~ wherein the isolation zone is one of two or more isolation zones.

15. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claims ~~6 to 14~~ comprising another mounting member, the other mounting member being connected to the mounting member via one or more of the isolation zones or additional isolation zones which allow the mounting member and other mounting member to move substantially independently of each other.

16. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 15 wherein the mounting member and other mounting member are connected to, or arranged for connection to, a mounting surface.

17. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 16 wherein one of the mounting surfaces is connected to or forms part of a first vessel.

18. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 17 wherein another of the mounting surfaces is connected to or forms part of a second vessel.

19. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claims 15 ~~to 18~~ wherein the one or more additional isolation zones comprise a flexible sleeve that surrounds at least in part the isolation zone of the valve element.

20. (Previously presented) A valve as claimed in claim 19 wherein the flexible sleeve comprises a sleeve which is extendable and contractible in an axial direction.

21. (Previously presented) A valve comprising:

a mounting member being adapted to provide for mounting of the valve; and

a valve element connected to the mounting member and including a collapsible aperture which in an open condition allows for flow of a fluid in a forward direction through the valve whilst in a closed condition the collapsible aperture prevents flow of the fluid in a reverse direction, the valve element being configured to provide opening of the collapsible aperture on application of a predetermined axial force to the mounting member.

22. (Original) A vavle as claimed in claim 21 wherein application of the predetermined axial force to the mount member promotes opening of the collapsible aperture.

23. (Currently amended) ~~A valve as claimed in any of the preceding claims where in the mounting member is formed integral with the valve element so that the valve is one of a~~

~~one piece construction~~ A valve as claimed in 21 wherein the valve element is of a conical or frusto-conical shape having its reduced diameter portion directed in the forward flow direction and the collapsible aperture is located at or adjacent the reduced diameter portion.

24. (Currently amended) ~~A valve as claimed any one of claims 21 to 23 wherein the valve element is of a conical of frusto-conical shape having its reduced diameter portion directed in the forward flow direction and the collapsible aperture is located at or adjacent the reduced diameter portion~~ A valve as claimed in claim 1 wherein the mounting member is formed integral with the valve element so that the valve is of a one-piece construction.

25. (Currently amended) A valve as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 formed predominantly of a polymeric or rubber material.